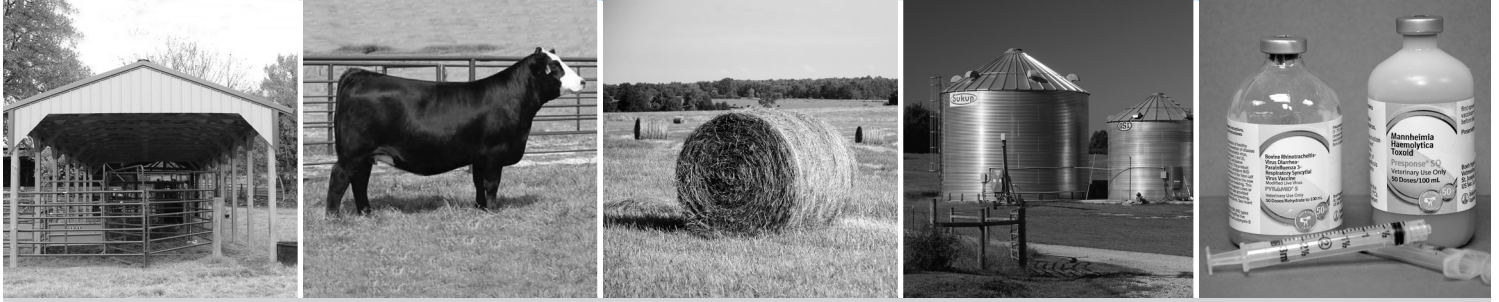


Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program



2021 Application A

**Genetics • Livestock Equipment • Hay Equipment
Herd Health • Livestock Solutions • Dairy Solutions
Permanent Working Structures • Row Crop Solutions**

Application Period
October 1 – 7, 2021

Application Guide

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TAEP Investments - 2005 to 2020

EACH TAEP DOLLAR GENERATES



\$6.09

IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES.*

*Source: The University of Tennessee Agri-Industry Modeling & Analysis Group

More than \$207,296,465 invested in 68,748 producer projects from FY06 - FY20

Genetics

Assists producers in improving the genetics in their operations, increasing the quality, value, marketability, and reputation of Tennessee livestock.

FY05-06 — FY19-20: 16,304 projects — \$17,816,062

Livestock Equipment

Improves a farmer's ability to properly and safely manage livestock on the farm with items like squeeze chutes, creep feeders, feed bins, and working systems.

FY05-06 — FY19-20: 31,737 projects — \$62,758,408

Hay Equipment

Assists farmers in improving hay production

FY19-20: 1,293 projects — \$5,742,370

Hay Storage

Assists farmers in building hay barns, improving storage and management of forages critical to improving herd nutrition.

FY06-07 — FY19-20: 10,535 projects — \$56,772,320

Herd Health

Assists cattle producers in improving whole herd health by encouraging a preventative vaccination protocol.

FY19-20: 201 projects - \$304,570

Livestock Solutions

Assists farmers in building feed storage sheds, silos, and installing feed management equipment, improving feed quality and cost efficiency.

FY07-08 — FY19-20: 2,539 projects — \$22,319,102

Row Crop Solutions

Assists farmers in managing, storing, and drying grains, providing higher returns and marketing flexibility.

FY08-09 — FY19-20: 2,204 projects — \$23,853,119

Permanent Working Structures

Improves farm safety, functionality, and longevity of livestock working equipment by providing a protective cover.

FY14-15 — FY19-20: 1,497 projects — \$4,137,859

Producer Diversification

Assists producers in diversifying their farming operations. Sectors include agritourism, fruit and vegetables, honey bees, horticulture, organics, and value-added products.

FY05-06 — FY19-20: 2,272 projects — \$12,800,009

Poultry Grower

Assists poultry growers in operational improvements.

FY15-16 — FY19-20: 166 projects — \$756,644

Message from Commissioner Hatcher



Dear Tennessee Farmers,

According to the University of Tennessee Agri-industry Modeling & Analysis Group, for every dollar that TAEP invests, \$6.09 is returned to the local economy. The numbers speak for themselves. Since the program began in 2005, more than \$207 Million has been invested in 68,748 producer projects. What a tremendous investment! In its sixteenth year, TAEP is a powerful and effective cost-share program. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture appreciates the farmers who continually invest in their farm operations. These investments strengthen Tennessee's agricultural industry as well as the state's rural economies.

We appreciate Governor Bill Lee and the Tennessee General Assembly's recognition of the importance of TAEP as well as the importance of agriculture to Tennessee. Their financial investment in TAEP year after year is a significant reason agriculture is the number one industry in Tennessee.

A special thank you to the TAEP Advisory Group as well. Each year, the group provides meaningful suggestions for ways to improve the program. This year we are excited to announce that the advisory group recommended including opportunities for the beginning farmer! The Beginning Farmer Option will open up TAEP to new people getting into agriculture. This will allow TAEP to reach a more diverse audience and make a difference in the rural distressed counties across Tennessee. Hay Equipment will also return as an available program this year. Additionally, we are excited to continue our partnership with the University of Tennessee. UT will be offering more online master education classes which allow farmers to participate at a 50% cost share!

This past year has proven that Tennessee's farmers and foresters are equipped to develop a plan and make adjustments when faced with difficult circumstances. Through the utilization of TAEP, you have shown the value of these cost-share dollars as you have continued to make long-term investments on Tennessee's farms. Your participation has allowed you as a producer to maximize your farm profits, adapt to changing market situations, improve operational safety, and increase farm efficiency.

We appreciate your continued support of the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program. Because of you, the future is bright in Tennessee Agriculture!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Hatcher". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Charlie Hatcher, D.V.M.
Commissioner of Agriculture

TAEP Overview

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) was established in 2005 to provide cost share dollars to agricultural producers for the purpose of making long-term investments in Tennessee farms and communities. Participation allows producers to maximize farm profits, adapt to changing market situations, improve operation safety, increase farm efficiency, and make a positive economic impact in their communities.

More than \$207 million has been invested in 68,748 producer projects from 2005 through 2020. **Each TAEP dollar generates \$6.09 in local economies.**

Eligibility

To be eligible for TAEP cost share, applicants must meet basic eligibility requirements and minimum livestock/acreage requirements per program selected. See p. 6 for additional information on eligibility requirements.

Farm Operation Participation

TAEP acknowledges that a farm operation may be owned and operated by:

- single individual
- multiple individuals
- company, corporation or a partnership

The applicant must be a Tennessee resident residing in Tennessee and operating a farm in Tennessee. A farm operation may involve the production of multiple agricultural products and may have multiple locations in Tennessee. **Only one person from the farm operation may apply for TAEP Application A cost share.**

Beginning Farmer Option

This new program option allows beginning farmers who do not meet minimum livestock/acreage requirements to participate in TAEP Application A. **To qualify for this option, the applicant must be a first time TAEP applicant who has been farming less than five years and does not meet the current minimum livestock/acreage requirements for any TAEP Application A program.** See pp. 10-11 to determine eligibility.

Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040) – 2019 or 2020

Each applicant must have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040) within the last two years (2019 or 2020) to be eligible to participate in TAEP. Approved applicants may be asked to submit a copy of their Schedule F to verify their farming operation anytime during the program cycle.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification – 2019 or 2020

Applicant must certify their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is less than (or equal to) \$900,000 in the tax year 2019 or 2020.

Taxable Income

Funds received as a result of TAEP reimbursement are taxable. Participants will receive Form 1099-G for reimbursement payments over \$600.00.

IRS Form W9

Approved applicants are required to submit an IRS Form W9 as part of their reimbursement documentation. This form is included in the reimbursement packet and is required for processing cost share payments and reporting taxable income.

Beef Quality Assurance Certification

Cattle producers must have a current (not expired) Beef Quality Assurance Certification (BQA) at time of application. Certification must be in the name of the applicant. See p. 6 for additional information.

Dairy Permit

Dairy producers must be permitted by TDA to be eligible as a dairy at time of application. See p. 6 for additional information.

Reimbursement Maximums

Each program has a reimbursement payment maximum. The amount of payment is based upon a cost share percentage (35% or 50%) of expenses incurred for eligible program items.

Final program reimbursement maximums will be determined based upon overall demand for cost share funding and specified on approval documentation.

Cost Share Percentages & Master Certification

All approved applicants are eligible for 35% (Standard Producer) cost share. For applicants wanting to qualify for 50% cost share (Master Producer), an eligible master producer certificate is required at time of reimbursement (not at time of application). Courses to obtain certificates must be completed by the applicant. Certificates must be issued after January 1, 2018 to be considered current for TAEP. See pp. 8 & 9 for additional information on master producer requirements.

Applicants qualifying for the Beginning Farmer Option must complete the required educational certification to qualify for reimbursement. See pp. 10-11.

Program Change

Applicant will not be allowed to change program request after the application period ends on October 7, 2021.

Application Period

The 2021 application period is open for seven days: October 1-7, 2021.

Eligible Purchase Dates

Program purchases can be made starting October 1, 2021. All purchases must be completed by the program reimbursement request deadline.

Approval Notifications

Approval notifications are scheduled to be mailed in mid-December. Reimbursement packets will be mailed in January 2022.

Reimbursement Request Deadlines

The reimbursement request deadline for Livestock Equipment and Hay Equipment is April 1, 2022. The reimbursement request deadline for Genetics is June 1, 2022. All other TAEP programs have a reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2022.

2021 TAEP Application A		
Program	Reimbursement Maximum*	Reimbursement Request Deadline
Livestock Equipment	\$1,800	April 1, 2022
Hay Equipment	\$5,000	
Genetics	\$1,600	June 1, 2022
Herd Health	\$1,500	August 1, 2022
Permanent Working Structures	\$3,000	
Dairy Solutions	\$6,000	
Livestock Solutions	\$6,000	
Row Crop Solutions	\$10,000	
*Final maximums will be determined based upon overall demand for cost share funding.		

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for TAEP cost share, applicant must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America or lawfully present in the United States.
2. Be at least 18 years old during the application period.
3. Be a Tennessee resident residing in Tennessee and operating a farm* in Tennessee. Documentation may be requested to verify applicant has established residency in Tennessee.

*A **farm operation** may be owned and operated by a single individual, multiple individuals, company, corporation or a partnership located in Tennessee. A farm operation may involve the production of multiple agricultural products and may have multiple locations in Tennessee. **Only one person from the farm operation is eligible to apply for TAEP Application A cost share.**

4. Have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040), Profit or Loss from Farming, within the last two years (2019 or 2020).

Applicant will not be required to submit a copy of their Schedule F at the time of application. However, applicant may be asked to submit a copy of their Schedule F prior to TAEP approval to verify their farming operation. If your operation does not file a Schedule F, please contact TAEP about alternate documentation to verify farming status.

5. Have an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of less than (or equal to) \$900,000 in the tax year 2019 or 2020.
6. Meet minimum livestock/acreage requirements for chosen program. Verification of minimum requirements may be requested prior to approval. *Minimum Requirements Waiver available for applicants who qualify for the Beginning Farmer Option. See pp. 10-11.*
 - Head of Livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months
 - Hay Acreage = acres of hay production; first cutting only
 - Row Crop Acreage = acres of land in row crop production of corn, cotton, soybeans, and wheat only
7. Have a current (not expired) certification/permit based on type of livestock producer at time of application. Certificates and permits must be completed by the applicant. No substitutions allowed.

Beef Quality Assurance Certification (BQA) for beef and dairy cattle

- BQA certification must be renewed every three years and be current at time of application.
- BQA is an educational class on cattle management and care.
- BQA trainings are posted at TCA's website (www.tn.cattle.org) under the Programs tab. BQA trainings are administered in-person by your local UT Extension office (utextension.tennessee.edu) and available online.
 - Contact TCA for additional information on BQA classes: 615-896-2333, info@tn.cattle.org
 - Online BQA certifications are eligible

Master Producer certifications are to be completed by the applicant prior to submission of their reimbursement request if seeking 50% cost share. See pp. 8 & 9 for more information.

Pork Quality Assurance Plus Certification (PQA) for swine

- PQA certifications must be renewed every three years and be current at time of application.
- PQA Plus is a two-hour educational course sponsored by the Tennessee Pork Producers Association (TPPA).
 - Contact TPPA for additional information on PQA Plus classes at: 615-274-6533 or porkpromotn@tds.net

TDA Dairy Permit for dairy cattle, goats, and sheep

- Dairy must be permitted by TDA to be eligible as a dairy at time of application.
 - Contact TDA Consumer and Industry Services Division Dairy Section for permit information at 615-837-5536.

Tennessee Department of Agriculture may:

- Accept, modify, or reject any or all requests.
- Modify program criteria, approval, and payment processes.
- Provide partial funding for specific activity components that may be less than the full amount requested.
 - Require additional information from the applicant.
 - Deny payments for projects that do not meet requirements.

Program Requirements

Application

1. Applications must be submitted during the application period October 1 – 7, 2021.
 - Applications may be submitted by one of the following methods:
 - Online — October 1 - 7, 2021
 - Mail — applications must have a postmark date ranging from October 1 - 7, 2021
 - Hand delivery to TDA, Holeman Building, 424 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220 between October 1 – 7, 2021 during normal business hours
 - Applications will not be accepted if faxed or emailed.
 - Applications are ineligible if postmarked or received prior to October 1 or after October 7, 2021.
2. Applicant may select only one cost share program request. **Applicant will not be allowed to change cost share program request after the application period ends on October 7, 2021.**
3. Applicant may only submit one Application A per farm operation*, per Federal IRS Schedule F, per person, per application period.

*A **farm operation** may be owned and operated by a single individual, multiple individuals, company, corporation or a partnership located in Tennessee. A farm operation may involve the production of multiple agricultural products and may have multiple locations in Tennessee. **Only one person from the farm operation is eligible to apply for TAEF Application A cost share.**

4. Applicant will be notified in writing of approval or disapproval. Notifications will be mailed in mid-December.
5. Reimbursement packet supersedes all information printed in the application booklet.

Reimbursement

1. Receipts dated prior to October 1, 2021 are not eligible. **All items, regardless of backorder status, must be purchased by the program reimbursement deadline.** Backordered items may be ineligible for cost share if not delivered to the farm by the program deadline.
2. Receipts for in-kind services are not eligible. Trade-in value is not eligible.
3. Used equipment, used materials, and leased equipment are not eligible for cost share reimbursement unless otherwise noted.
4. Labor provided by applicant is not eligible for cost share reimbursement. Labor is for structures only.
5. Applicant cannot be reimbursed for purchases from a business where applicant participates in ownership (producer cooperatives excluded).
6. Applicants cannot combine projects and submit more than one reimbursement for the same item.
7. Reimbursement documentation must be postmarked or uploaded to your TAEF Online Account Portal by the reimbursement request deadline. Additional processing time is required for incomplete reimbursement requests and requests submitted within one month of the program deadline. It is recommended you submit your reimbursement request as soon as your project is complete.
8. There can only be one reimbursement payment per program approval. Projects must be completed by reimbursement request deadline.

Verification

1. Applicant must utilize equipment and structures reimbursed with cost share funds for the intended purpose of the program for a minimum of **five (5)** continuous years from date of purchase.
2. Site visits relating to the performance of the project before, during, and after completion may take place. Site visits may include verification of program eligibility to ensure applicants meet eligibility and minimum livestock/acreage requirements for chosen program(s).
3. Applicant may be required to repay funds for failure to comply with all aspects of the cost share guidelines.
4. Providing any false, fraudulent, or misleading information may result in penalties and/or make the applicant's operation ineligible to participate in present and/or future Tennessee Department of Agriculture programs for a minimum of five years and may result in civil litigation or criminal prosecution.

50% Master Producer Requirements

Master Producer Programs

The University of Tennessee offers several educational programs for the agricultural industry. These programs are designed to provide hands-on experience in current management practices that are important to the profitability and sustainability of the industry.

All approved applicants are eligible for 35% (Standard Producer) cost share. For applicants wanting to qualify for 50% cost share (Master Producer), an eligible master producer certificate is required at time of reimbursement (not time of application). Applicants qualifying for the Beginning Farmer Option must complete a required educational certification to qualify for reimbursement. See pp. 10-11.

Eligible Courses by Program

Program	Eligible Courses	Certificate Eligibility
Genetics	Master Beef Master Small Ruminant Master Dairy Master Farm Manager Master Farm Family Health & Wellness	Certificate issued January 1, 2018 or after
Hay Equipment		
Livestock Equipment		
Livestock Solutions		
Permanent Working Structures		
Dairy Solutions	Master Dairy Master Farm Manager Master Farm Family Health & Wellness	
Row Crop Solutions	Master Row Crop Master Farm Manager Master Farm Family Health & Wellness	Certificate issued January 1, 2020 or after
Herd Health	Not Applicable	

TAEP Beginning Farmer Option

Program	Eligible Courses	Certificate Eligibility
All Programs – Application A	UT Farming Fundamentals TSU New Farmer Academy	Certificate issued January 1, 2018 or after

Educational Courses for the Beginning Farmer Option

The **UT Farming Fundamentals** educational program will focus on producers who are beginning a new venture in agriculture. The program will include resources and information on the essential principles needed to build a successful operation. The topics will include production basics, farm and financial management, marketing basics, taxes, business plan development, and other industry related issues. For more information, please contact your local UT Extension office or visit utextension.tennessee.edu.

The **TSU Tennessee New Farmer Academy** is a seven-month certificate program designed for those with an interest in becoming agricultural entrepreneurs. The program focuses on teaching the concepts, providing the information, and facilitating the hands-on experience needed to build solid, viable, and successful agricultural businesses. In addition to classroom instruction, the New Farmer Academy provides hands-on experiential sessions on topics including fruit tree pruning and care, drip irrigation and plasticulture, fencing installation and repair, GPS/GIS mapping, sprayer calibration, and equipment operation/safety. For more information, please visit www.tnstate.edu/extension/ or contact Finis Stribling, III, Area Extension Specialist, (931) 375-5301, fstripling@tnstate.edu.

50% Master Producer Requirements

Master Certification & TAEP 50% Cost Share

To be eligible for 50% cost share, an approved applicant must complete an eligible Master or Advanced Master course **prior to submission of their reimbursement request**.

- Certificates must be issued **2018 or after** to be considered current for TAEP.
- Courses to obtain certificates must be completed by the applicant approved for TAEP cost share. No substitutions allowed.
- Copy of current certificate must be submitted with reimbursement request.

Course Schedules

Contact your local UT/TSU Extension office to inquire about educational course offerings.

- University of Tennessee | utextension.tennessee.edu
- Tennessee State University | tnstate.edu/extension

Master Producer Recertification

If you received your master certification after **January 1, 2018**, you will be eligible for 50% cost share for the 2021-2022 TAEP program. **Recertification is required if course was completed prior to 2018.**

If you are unsure when you earned your master course certification, please contact your local UT/TSU Extension Agent for assistance.

Contact your local UT/TSU Extension office to inquire about your master course certification needs.

- University of Tennessee | utextension.tennessee.edu
- Tennessee State University | tnstate.edu/extension

The following chart indicates master producer certificate eligibility by TAEP program year.

TAEP Program Year	Master Certificate Eligibility
2021-2022	Certificate issued January 1, 2018 or after
2022-2023	Certificate issued January 1, 2019 or after
2023-2024	Certificate issued January 1, 2020 or after
2024-2025	Certificate issued January 1, 2021 or after

BQA Certification vs. Master Producer Certification

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification is required at time of application for cattle producers only. Training courses are offered in-person by your local UT Extension office or online. Course focuses on cattle management and care and is approximately two hours in length.

Master Producer certification is required prior to submission of reimbursement request for applicants seeking to be eligible for 50% cost share. Master Producer certificates are issued by UT Extension. Course involves multiple education sessions focusing on production and marketing.

Beginning Farmer Option

Beginning Farmer Option

This program option allows beginning farmers* who **do not** meet minimum livestock/acreage requirements to participate in TAEF Application A. The purpose of this option is to help the beginning farmer applicant improve their operation with the goal of meeting minimum livestock/acreage requirements in the future. **Applicants who currently meet the minimum livestock/acreage requirements for any TAEF Application A program do not qualify for the Beginning Farmer Option. However, they may apply for the program for which they are eligible.**

Beginning Farmer Requirements

*The beginning farmer applicant must meet basic TAEF eligibility requirements (p. 6) unless otherwise specified below.

1. **First time TAEF applicant** – 2021 will be the first year the applicant has applied for TAEF cost share funding. **Only one person from the farm operation may apply for TAEF Application A cost share.**
2. **Farming less than five years** – applicant must be actively farming at time of application and must have started their farming operation after January 1, 2017. **Only one person from the farm operation may apply for TAEF Application A cost share.**
3. **Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040) Filing** – applicant must have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040), Profit or Loss from Farming, within the last two years (2019 or 2020), unless the applicant began their operation in 2021. Applicant may be asked to submit a copy of their Schedule F prior to TAEF approval to verify their farming operation.
4. **Minimum Requirements Waiver** – program minimum requirements will be waived for applicants qualifying for the TAEF Beginning Farmer Option. Applicant is required to report their highest single day inventory of head of livestock and total acres in production during the last 12 months on their application.

Applicant may apply for only one (1) TAEF Application A program.

Below is a list of eligible programs by operation type:

- o **Cattle producer** – with less than 30 head, is eligible for:
 - Dairy Solutions
 - Herd Health
 - Genetics
 - Hay Equipment
 - Livestock Equipment
 - Livestock Solutions
 - Permanent Working Structures
 - o **Goats/Sheep producer** – with less than 50 head, is eligible for:
 - Dairy Solutions
 - Genetics
 - Hay Equipment
 - Livestock Equipment
 - Livestock Solutions
 - Permanent Working Structures
 - o **Hay producer** – with less than 100 acres of hay in production (first cutting only), is eligible for:
 - Hay Equipment
 - o **Row Crop producer** – with less than 100 acres of row crop (corn, cotton, soybeans, wheat) in production, is eligible for:
 - Row Crop Solutions
5. **Master Certification Required** – applicant must complete **UT Farming Fundamentals** or **TSU New Farmer Academy** prior to program reimbursement deadline.
 - o Applicant who completes the education requirement will be reimbursed at 50% up to the program maximum. **Standard 35% cost share is not available for the Beginning Farmer Option.** *If you are unable to complete the UT Farming Fundamentals course or attend the TSU New Farmer Academy, your project will not be funded.*
 - o Proof of **UT Farming Fundamentals** or **TSU New Farmer Academy** certification is required at time of reimbursement (not at time of application). Certificates issued 2018 or after will be accepted.

Beginning Farmer Option

Do you qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option?

The following information will assist you in determining whether you are eligible for the new Beginning Farmer Option.

This will be the first year I have applied for TAEP cost share. *True or False?*

- ✓ If true, continue to the next question
- ⊘ If false, you do not qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option

I started my farming operation after January 1, 2017. *True or False?*

- ✓ If true, continue to the next question
- ⊘ If false, you do not qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option

I do not currently meet the TAEP minimum head of livestock/acreage requirements for any TAEP Application A program. *True or False?* Minimum requirements are featured at the top of each program page.

- ✓ If true, you may be eligible for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option, providing you meet basic TAEP eligibility requirements (p. 6)
- ⊘ If false, you do not qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option

What programs can a TAEP Beginning Farmer apply for?

You will select a program based upon your operation type as shown below.

Cattle	Goats/Sheep	Hay	Row Crop
Dairy Solutions Genetics Hay Equipment Herd Health Livestock Equipment Livestock Solutions Permanent Working Structures	Dairy Solutions Genetics Hay Equipment Livestock Equipment Livestock Solutions Permanent Working Structures	Hay Equipment	Row Crop Solutions

Do I need any certifications before applying for cost share?

Cattle producers must have a current (not expired) **Beef Quality Assurance Certification** (BQA) at time of application. Certification must be in the name of the applicant. *See p. 6 for additional information.*

If I'm approved as a TAEP Beginning Farmer, what will be expected of me?

You are required to complete the **UT Farming Fundamentals** or **TSU New Farmer Academy** certification by the program reimbursement deadline. Completion of this course is required by the time of reimbursement for 50% cost share. There will not be a 35% cost share option. *If you are unable to complete the UT Farming Fundamentals or TSU New Farmer Academy, your project will not be funded.*

If I'm approved as a TAEP Beginning Farmer this year, will I be eligible to participate in the Beginning Farmer Option in future years?

Applicants who are approved for the 2021-2022 Beginning Farmer Option **may** have the opportunity to apply for the 2022-2023 Beginning Farmer Option if they successfully complete educational requirements and submit a reimbursement request.

Dairy Solutions

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$6,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 30 Head Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	BQA — Cattle Dairy Permit	Not applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months.				

Guidelines

Herd health and milk quality are critical to the productivity of Tennessee's dairy farms. These two areas can directly improve a dairy's bottom line and create opportunities for market access. The Dairy Solutions program is available to support Tennessee dairy producers in their efforts to improve herd health and milk quality.

Dairy Permit - required

- Dairy producers must be permitted by TDA to be eligible as a dairy at time of application. Only one person from the farm operation may apply for cost share.
- Contact TDA Consumer and Industry Services Division Dairy Section for permit information at 615-837-5536.

Master Dairy Program

The Tennessee Master Dairy Program is an educational program that provides a variety of information on animal housing, management, nutrition, reproduction, milk quality, health, handling, welfare, and other topics. Modules are continuously created to provide dairy producers and other interested parties with the most up-to-date information on the topic of interest. At least 3 modules are provided each year across the state to provide dairy producers with easy access to continuing education. Producers interested in becoming a certified Master Dairy Producer will need to receive 6 hours of continuing education credits.

To learn more information and to see upcoming classes, visit <https://tiny.utk.edu/MasterDairy>.

For questions about the program, contact Dr. Liz Eckelkamp (eeckelka@utk.edu or 865-974-8167).

Eligible Items

New Equipment Only — Items 1 - 13

Ø New items cannot be previously owned.

Ø Items purchased at an auction are considered used.

1. Automatic robotic milking systems
2. Commercial water heater
3. Generator for dairy barn
4. Industrial fans – metal only, minimum size of 48 in.
5. Manure/lagoon agitator
6. Manure/lagoon pump
7. Milk pipeline system – includes, but not limited to automatic washer/sanitizing unit, clean in-place unit, automatic milk take-offs, milk claws, vertical wash vat, milk meters and monitoring system
8. Milk vacuum pump
9. Plate exchange for heating water or cooling milk
10. Stationary milk tank
11. UV or filtration system – installation of systems for well water that is required to be tested
12. Vacuum system gauges and regulators
13. Water sterilization equipment

Testing & Services

14. Activity monitor for identifying cows in heat
15. Milk culture, culture sensitivity test
16. Milking equipment service contract
17. Milk quality lab analyses
18. On-farm antibiotic and mastitis testing – cow-side tests including test kits, subclinical mastitis detectors, and incubator or heater block
19. Somatic cell count test
20. Travel/labor for milk tester (when applicable)

Infrastructure

21. New construction – milking parlor and/or tank room

Herd Health

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,500 Maximum Reimbursement
Cattle — 30 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Three (3) Reimbursements	Payment amount per head
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Lifetime Limit = refers to the number of allowed reimbursements.			

Guidelines

This is a record keeping reimbursement. Participants must provide complete data when filling out the reimbursement documentation. Reimbursement is based upon a per head payment instead of a cost share percentage.

This program focuses on improving the whole herd health and reputation of Tennessee cattle by encouraging producers to develop a preventative vaccination protocol for their cattle operation. Prioritizing the health and well-being of your cattle is key to a successful operation. A herd health protocol helps to safeguard against sickness and death within the herd.

This program targets all beef and dairy cattle. This program requires basic preventative vaccinations that focus on respiratory diseases, Blackleg, and breeding health. *Producers are encouraged to work with a Tennessee licensed large animal veterinarian to develop a vaccination protocol for their herd.*

What action is required to participate in this program?

Producers will be required to implement the following TAEP Herd Health Protocol and keep records of vaccinations on each individual animal. Information will include: animal identification, sex of animal, date vaccinated, castrated, and dehorned. In addition, producers will be required to list the name, lot number, and expiration date for each product administered for respiratory diseases, Blackleg, and Lepto.

TAEP Herd Health Protocol – Required

1. Vaccination for respiratory diseases for IBR, BVD, PI₃, and BRSV — *all cattle*
2. Vaccination for Blackleg with a 7 or 8 way Clostridial — *required for cattle under 2 years*
3. Vaccination for Lepto — *breeding stock only*
4. Dehorned — *feeder cattle*
5. Castrated — *consult your veterinarian for tetanus recommendations if banding*

Guidelines

Eligible Items

1. TAEP Herd Health Protocol – required

- Vaccination for respiratory diseases for IBR, BVD, PI₃, and BRSV – *all cattle*
- Vaccination for Blackleg with a 7 or 8 way Clostridial – *required for cattle under 2 years*
- Vaccination for Lepto – *breeding stock only*
- Dehorned – *feeder cattle*
- Castrated – *consult your veterinarian for tetanus recommendations if banding*

Requirements

- Indicate vaccination activity for each individual animal on the TAEP Herd Health Record.
 - Animal identification
 - Sex of animal
 - Date vaccinated, castrated, and dehorned
- List each vaccination on the TAEP Herd Health Record.
 - Product name
 - Lot number/serial number
 - Expiration date

2. Additional Opportunities - optional

- 840 EID Tag Tags – tags must be listed on TAEP Herd Health Record
- BVD-PI Test – ear notch lab results required
- Pregnancy Exam - Palpation/Ultrasound – veterinarian test record/invoice required
- Treatment for external and internal parasites – indicate on TAEP Herd Health Record
- Respiratory Booster Vaccination – indicate on TAEP Herd Health Record
- Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE) – BSE form completed by Tennessee licensed large animal veterinarian
- Trichomoniasis Test – lab results required
- Genomic Testing – test results and invoice

Herd Health Incentives	
Required	\$/head
TAEP Herd Health Protocol	\$15
Optional	\$/head
840 EID Tags	\$2
BVD-PI Test	\$5
Pregnancy Exam — Palpation/Ultrasound	\$5
Treatment for external and internal parasites	\$5
Respiratory Booster Vaccination	\$10
Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE)	\$25
Trichomoniasis Test	\$35
Genomic Testing	\$40
Must take place between October 1, 2021 and August 1, 2022.	

Producers are encouraged to combine multiple exams in a single veterinarian visit. For example, Trichomoniasis testing is recommended during BSE exam. It is also recommended to submit ear notch sample for BVD-PI test and secure 840 EID tag for bull during BSE exam.

Genetics Overview

\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement

- Reimbursements will be based on maximum allowed per eligible item
- All items below can be combined for a maximum reimbursement of \$1,600
- Standard 35% cost share or Master 50% cost share

Item	Maximum Per Item*
Bred Does/Ewes	\$160
Bucks/Rams	\$500
Bred Beef Heifers	\$500
Bull Leases — true NCE EPDs	\$400
Bulls — true NCE EPDs	\$1,000
Bulls — Genomic Enhanced EPDs	\$1,600
Artificial Insemination	\$1,600
* Items purchased must meet specified conditions to be eligible for the maximum.	

What's new for the 2021-2022 Genetics Program?

Goats/Sheep

- **Bred Does/Ewes** — new item offering cost share maximum of \$160 per Doe or Ewe; *see p. 21 for information*
- **Bucks/Rams** — cost share maximum was increased to \$500 per Buck or Ram

Genetics and Herd Health Glossary

840 EID	Official USDA Electronic 15 digit ID beginning with "840"	IBR	Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis
Acc	EPD Accuracy (0 – 1.0)	Lepto HB	Leptospira Hardjo-Bovis
AI	Artificial Insemination	Lepto	Leptospirosis
BRSV	Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus	LNM	Lifetime Net Merit
BSE	Breeding Soundness Evaluation	NCE	National Cattle Evaluation
BVD	Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus	NN	Spider free results from the Spider Syndrome Genotype test
BVD-PI	Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus Persistent Infection	PI	Production Index — Dairy (ex. TPI for Holstein/JPI for Jersey)
BW	Birth Weight EPD (Calving Ease category)	PI₃	Bovine Parainfluenza Type 3 Virus
CE	Calving Ease Direct EPD (Calving Ease category)	RR	Scrapie free results from the Scrapie Codon 171 Genotype test
CVI	Certificate of Veterinary Inspection	Trich	Trichomoniasis
EPD	Expected Progeny Difference	WW	Weaning Weight EPD (Growth category)
GE-EPD	Genomic Enhanced — Expected Progeny Difference	YW	Yearling Weight EPD (Growth category)

TAEP Bull Purchase Reimbursement Tool

The TAEP Bull Reimbursement Tool is an online aid to help in determining a bull's EPD & Accuracy qualification and potential TAEP reimbursement amount. This public service is provided by the UT Department of Animal Science and TAEP. This online tool is found on the **TAEP home webpage** (www.tn.gov/taep).

This tool is intended to be used as a guide to provide information based solely on pedigree data entered by the user. This tool is provided without any guarantees of acceptance. Pedigree must be submitted with reimbursement request and include EPDs, accuracies, genomic verification (if applicable), and have a printed date between October 1, 2021 and the date of purchase.

In addition to a bull meeting EPD & Accuracy qualifications, the bull must also have an eligible BSE, 840 EID tag, and negative test result for BVD-PI.

Trichomoniasis ("Trich") is a venereal disease of cattle caused by the protozoan *Tritrichomonas foetus*, which is transmitted from cow to cow by infected bulls. **This disease reduces calf production by decreasing fertility and inducing abortions.** While heifers usually rid themselves of Trichomoniasis in three to six months, bulls carry the infection for life without showing any symptoms. With no medically approved cures available, detection and control of infected bulls is key to containing the disease. An official sample must be collected by an accredited veterinarian who has been approved by the state. *Trichomoniasis testing is recommended during BSE exam along with submitting ear notch sample for BVD-PI test and securing 840 EID tag for bull.*

Trichomoniasis testing is highly recommended for non-virgin bulls during the BSE Exam. All bulls purchased from out of state sources must meet import requirements as set forth by the State Veterinarian's Office.

Genetics – Cattle

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement <i>See p. 16 for item maximums</i>	
Cattle — 30 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Not applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months.				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

1. Bulls — purchased (or leased — \$400 maximum per bull)
2. AI — semen from eligible AI sires (EPD, PI, or LNM proof required), new semen tanks, liquid nitrogen fills, synchronization cost, AI supplies & equipment, AI technician fees, and/or AI training certification
3. Bred beef heifers — see p. 19

Requirements – Bulls

1. BVD-PI — test negative for BVD-PI; *lab results required; ear notch samples must be submitted if using TDA Kord Lab*
2. 840 EID — “840” are the first three digits — available from veterinarian at time of BSE, BVD-PI, and Trichomoniasis testing
3. BSE — performed by licensed veterinarian within 90 days of purchase; Trichomoniasis testing recommended
4. Dairy — bulls and semen must meet or exceed the minimum LNM or PI requirements; *AI is recommended*
5. Beef — bulls and semen must meet or exceed EPD requirements in each of the two (2) EPD groups (Calving Ease and Growth) for one of the following three bull types
 - a. Balanced — must meet (2) of (2) EPD groups (Calving Ease and Growth); Maternal suggested
 - b. Calving Ease — must meet (2) of (2) EPD groups (Calving Ease and Growth); Maternal suggested
 - c. Terminal — must meet (2) of (2) EPD groups (Calving Ease and Growth); no Maternal

EPD, Accuracy, and Genomic Information

TAEP 2021 – 2022 EPD and Accuracy Requirements will be posted in September 2021 at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Genetics and will be included in the reimbursement packet. **EPDs have changed for this application period and must be current as of October 1, 2021.**

Eligible beef breeds for the TAEP Genetics program must have a national breed performance testing program that participates in a National Cattle Evaluation (NCE) program recognized by the Beef Improvement Federation. Genomic Enhanced or true NCE EPDs must be calculated and printed from the most prominent breed association.

\$1,000 Maximum Reimbursement — Bulls with qualifying true NCE EPDs with a minimum 0.15 accuracy for Calving Ease and Growth categories for one of the three eligible bull types

- Bulls must have true NCE EPDs with a minimum 0.15 accuracy complete on breed association pedigree to be eligible for either 35% or 50% cost share reimbursement up to \$1,000.
- Breed association pedigree must be submitted with reimbursement request and include EPDs, accuracies, and have a printed date between October 1, 2021 and June 1, 2022.

\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement — Bulls with qualifying Genomic Enhanced EPDs for one of the three eligible bull types

- Genomic Enhanced EPD verification must be complete on breed association pedigree to be eligible for either 35% or 50% cost share reimbursement up to \$1,600.
- Breed association pedigree must be submitted with reimbursement request and include EPDs, accuracies, genomic verification, and have a printed date between October 1, 2021 and June 1, 2022.

Payment may be denied if individual bulls do not have true NCE EPDs with a minimum 0.15 accuracy calculated by their breed association by June 1, 2022. These EPDs must meet or exceed minimum TAEP EPD requirements. Interim EPDs, pedigree estimates, pedigree index (ex. I, I+, P, P+ or 0.05 Accuracy), or parental averages are not eligible for reimbursement.

Genetics – Bred Beef Heifers

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement
Cattle — 30 Head	BQA — Beef	Not Applicable	\$500 maximum per heifer
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months.			

Guidelines

Eligible Items

1. Bred Beef Heifers - \$500 maximum per heifer

Qualifications

1. Stewardship Information (Producer Affidavit required)
 - a. Official USDA permanent identification — heifers must be individually and permanently identified with 840 EID, metal tag, breed registry brand or tattoo
 - b. Ownership — seller name, address, and phone number
 - c. Sale Information — price and sale date
 - d. Age — maximum of 28 months at time of purchase
 - e. Service Sire (AI or natural) — heifers must be bred to a bull that meets either the CE or BW Genomic Enhanced EPD or true NCE EPD with a minimum 0.15 accuracy from the TAEP Calving Ease bull type requirements. *AI bred to a high accuracy calving ease sire is recommended.*
2. Preventative Health (Producer Affidavit required)
Must be vaccinated with two rounds of the following vaccines:
 - a. Respiratory: IBR, BVD, PI₃, BRSV. *Recommended — fetal protection (FP)*
 - b. Blackleg: 7-way Clostridial
 - c. Reproductive: Lepto. *Recommended — Lepto HB*
3. Current and Reproductive Health (Veterinarian Affidavit required)
 - a. Official USDA permanent identification
 - b. Veterinarian name, clinic, and phone number
 - c. Test negative for BVD-PI; *lab results required*
 - d. Size – heifer must be a minimum of 800 pounds at pregnancy exam
 - e. Pregnancy status – list date of pregnancy exam and days pregnant
 - Heifer must be a minimum of 90 days bred at date of purchase
 - o March 1, 2022 is the latest breeding date that 90-day pregnancy could be verified by a June 1, 2022 sale date (06/01/2022 Reimbursement Deadline)
 - o Exception for deferred Veterinarian Affidavit will be granted to heifers bred from March 1 until May 15, 2022, so that these bred heifers may still be purchased by June 1, 2022. These heifers must be verified a minimum of 90 days pregnant by a licensed veterinarian by August 15, 2022.
 - Buyers should be aware that heifers bred from March 1 until May 15, 2022 would not have a 90-day veterinarian pregnancy verification by the June 1, 2022 reimbursement deadline.
 - o Exception granted to heifers already nursing first (1st) calf. Veterinarian Affidavit still required – Vet must verify current health status of both heifer & calf.

Tip: 840 EID tag and BVD-PI tests are available from veterinarian at time of pregnancy exam — palpation/ultrasound pre-breeding examination, or when administering the preventative herd health program.

Requirements

1. Producer Affidavit — attach pedigree(s) with EPDs, accuracies, and genomic status for service sires
2. Veterinarian Affidavit — attach negative BVD-PI test results

Affidavit forms are available at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Genetics, from Tennessee licensed veterinarians, and included in TAEP Genetics reimbursement packet. Affidavits allow up to four (4) heifers with consistent management and breeding to be listed on each form. List all IDs, birth date range, and range of days pregnant.

Genetics – Goats/Sheep

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement <i>See p. 16 for item maximums</i>	
Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	Not applicable	Not applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.				

Guidelines

Eligible Items — Goats

- Bucks (pedigree required*) - \$500 maximum per buck
- Bred Does - \$160 per doe – see p. 21
- AI
 - Semen – *AI qualified bucks with semen code is suggested*
 - New semen tanks, liquid nitrogen fills, synchronization cost, AI supplies & equipment
 - AI technician fees and/or AI training certification
- Breeding soundness evaluation (BSE) or pregnancy exam – by Tennessee licensed veterinarian

Eligible Items — Sheep

- Rams (pedigree required*) - \$500 maximum per ram
 - RR results for the Scrapie Codon 171 Genotype test
 - NN results for the Spider Syndrome Genotype test
- Bred Ewes- \$160 per ewe – see p. 21
- AI
 - Semen – *AI qualified rams with semen code suggested*
 - New semen tanks, liquid nitrogen fills, synchronization cost, AI supplies & equipment
 - AI technician fees and/or AI training certification
- Breeding soundness evaluation (BSE) or pregnancy exam – by Tennessee licensed veterinarian
- Genomic testing – Scrapie, Spider, dwarfism

Requirements — Bucks and Rams

- Physical Examination or BSE – must be performed by a licensed veterinarian within 90 days of purchase or reimbursement
- Official Identification – Scrapie tag, microchip, or breed registry identification
- Pedigree
 - Bucks (pedigree required*)
 - Rams (pedigree required*)
 - * *Breed registration certificate or herd management software pedigree (ex. HerdBoss) suggested. Examples and helpful information are available at <https://animalscience.tennessee.edu/small-ruminants/>*
- Genotype test results – Rams must test negative for Scrapie and Spider genes

Genetics – Bred Does/Ewes

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,600 Maximum Reimbursement <i>See p. 16 for item maximums</i>	
Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	Not applicable	Not applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

1. Bred Does/Ewes - \$160 per doe or ewe

Qualifications

1. Stewardship Information (Producer Affidavit required)
 - a. Official USDA permanent identification — must be individually and permanently identified with Scrapie tag, microchip, or breed registry identification
 - b. Ownership — seller name, address, and phone number
 - c. Sale information — price and sale date
 - d. Age — maximum of 24 months at time of purchase
 - e. Service Sire (AI or natural) — buck or ram
 - AI service sire — attach pedigree or semen catalog data
 - Natural service sire — attach pedigree
 - Buck (pedigree required)
 - Ram (RR & NN genotype results and pedigree required)
2. Preventative Health (Producer Affidavit required)
 - a. Dewormed — required
 - Ewes — RR & NN Genomic test is suggested
 - Flock health program with local veterinarian is suggested
3. Current and Reproductive Health (Veterinarian Affidavit required)
 - a. Official USDA permanent identification — must be individually and permanently identified with Scrapie tag, microchip, or breed registry identification
 - b. Veterinarian name, clinic, and phone number
 - c. Pregnancy status – minimum of 45 days bred at date of purchase

Requirements

1. Producer Affidavit — attach pedigree(s) or semen catalog data
2. Veterinarian Affidavit

Affidavit forms are available at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Genetics, from Tennessee licensed veterinarians, and included in TAEP Genetics – Goats & Sheep reimbursement packet. Affidavits allow up to ten (10) bred does/ewes with consistent management and breeding to be listed on each form. List all IDs, birth date range, and range of days pregnant.

Livestock Equipment

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$1,800 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 30 Head Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

New Equipment Only — Items 1 - 23

Ø New items cannot be previously owned.

Ø Items purchased at an auction are considered used.

- Add-on alley sheet
- Animal scale/indicator
- Automatic cube pellet feeder/cake feeder — scales optional at time of purchase only
- Bunk feeder
- Clover seeder — cone type 3 point hitch or ATV/UTV mounted seeder that broadcasts seed
- Covered mineral feeder — stand alone and ground only
- Creep feeder
- Creep panel
- Electronic identification (EID) reader
- Feed bin
- Feeder panel
- Feed bin unload auger — maximum 29 ft. length
- Fly sprayer and/or oiler — walk through/under only
- Hay ring/hay feeder
- Hay unroller
- Mobile calf catcher pen — ATV or UTV attachment; scales and/or hitch optional at time of purchase only
- Pasture gate — *must be installed at time of reimbursement*
- Pasture sprayer
 - minimum tank capacity: 100 gal.
 - minimum pump output: 20 gal. per minute
 - PTO, shaft, or hydraulic drive
 - roller or centrifugal pump
- Pasture sprayer GPS
- Sheep/goat automatic milk feeding machine
- Sheep/goat fitting stand
- Sheep shear — minimum 3 in. wide head, minimum 2,000 RPM
- Ultrasound and accessories

Eligible Items

New or Used Equipment — Items 24 - 39

24. Alley frame
25. Alleyway
26. Carriage for squeeze chute
27. Continuous pipe panel — *interior use only, must be installed at the time of reimbursement*
28. Corral panel — portable panel, gate in frame/bow gate
29. Crowding/sweep tub
30. Head gate
31. Headlock stanchion/palpation rail/stall loop
32. Hoof trimming table or chute
33. Loading chute
34. Neck extender/brisket bar/head holder
35. Palpation cage
36. Rolling block door/alley back stop
37. Slant bar hay feeding wagon
38. Squeeze chute
39. Tilt/roll table

Used equipment must meet all of the following criteria:

- ✓ **Less than 10 years old**
- ✓ **Excellent working condition**
- ✓ **Minimal rust**
- ✓ **Reasonable market price**

Tennessee Department of Agriculture may verify used equipment prior to payment.

Permanent Working Structures

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$3,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 30 Head Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

- Permanent Working Cover — the purpose of this structure is to cover existing livestock working equipment and sorting pens only
 - New structures — permanent structures only
 - Additions to existing structures — permanent structures only; additions consist of adding square footage to an existing barn in the form of a side shed and/or extension in length
- Permanent Working Pen — for receiving, separating, weaning, or holding livestock prior to working and/or loading
 - New construction only — see pp. 26 & 27 for requirements

Permanent Working Cover Requirements

- New **permanent** structures or additions to existing structures; *not eligible — carport/garage structures*
- Minimum size of 480 sq. ft. and minimum width of 16 ft.
- Minimum eave height — 10 ft. high clearance at the outside of shortest wall
- Minimum of two openings for livestock access/movement
- Roof material — metal or polymer coated fabric
- Sides/walls (optional) — metal or wood; *structure cannot be completely enclosed*
- Labor for construction of Working Facility Cover; *not eligible — labor provided by applicant*
- Not eligible but required; working equipment must be arranged in a functional layout under the cover at time of reimbursement.
Equipment is not eligible for cost share.

Equipment is not eligible for cost share under the Permanent Working Structures program. However, there is a minimum setup of equipment that will be required to be placed under the Permanent Working Cover at time of reimbursement.

The Permanent Working Cover is a structure used to cover **existing** livestock working equipment and sorting pens only.

The minimum setup of existing livestock working equipment that is required to be under the Permanent Working Cover at time of reimbursement must include:

- ✓ Alley
- ✓ Crowding system area
- ✓ Head gate and/or squeeze chute

Permanent Working Cover Reimbursement

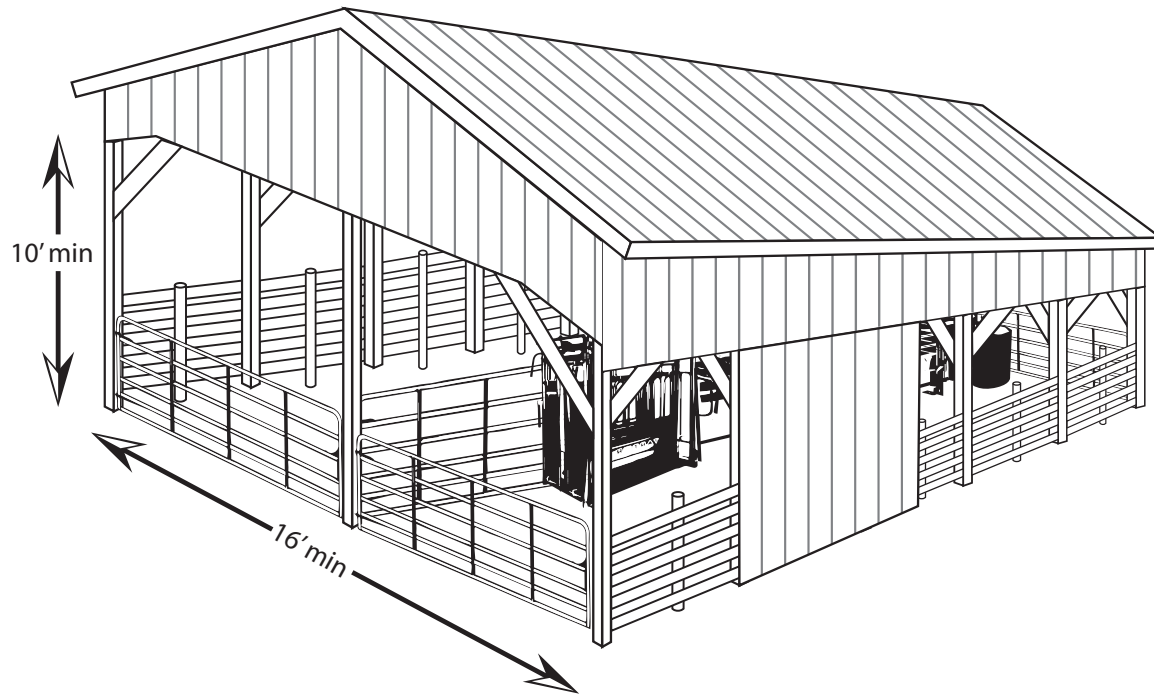
Approvals will be allocated for the maximum amount of \$3,000. Reimbursements will be based on finished project up to **maximum per square foot**. Examples of how to calculate the reimbursement amount will be included in the reimbursement packet.

- 35% Cost Share — Standard Producer
\$2.00/sq. ft. maximum reimbursement
- 50% Cost Share — Master Producer
\$3.00/sq. ft. maximum reimbursement

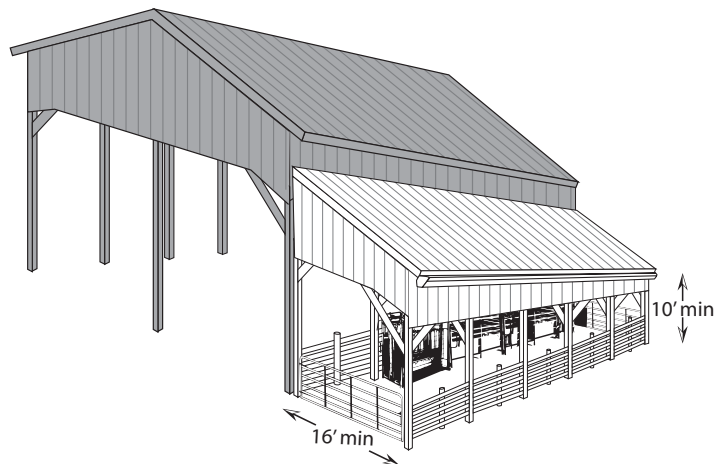
Permanent Working Cover Examples

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Structure must cover existing working equipment (alley, crowding system area, and head gate and/or squeeze chute) at time of reimbursement. **Equipment is not eligible for cost share.**

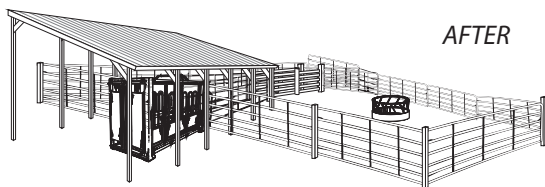
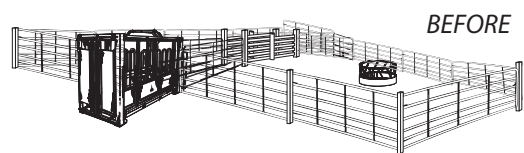
NEW STRUCTURE TO COVER EXISTING EQUIPMENT



ADDITION TO EXISTING STRUCTURE



COVERING EXISTING EQUIPMENT



Not all items in these examples are eligible for cost share; not eligible - gates, gutters, livestock equipment, carport/garage structures

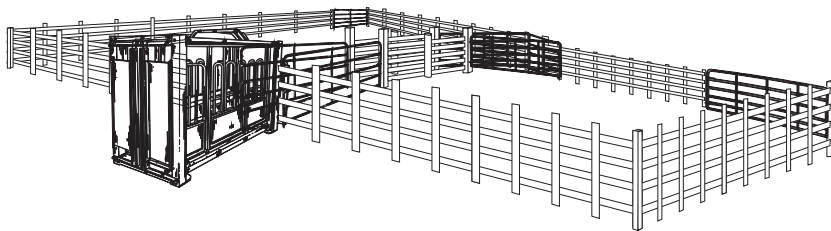
Permanent Working Structures ... continued

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$3,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 30 Head Goats/Sheep — 50 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.				

Guidelines - continued from p. 24

Permanent Working Pen Requirements

- New construction only; *not eligible* – building pen to an existing fence and/or pen
- Maximum size — 10,000 sq. ft.
- Minimum size — 420 sq. ft.
- Rails — minimum of (4) lumber/pipe rails or (3) guardrails; *not eligible* — portable corral/wire panels
- Multiple pens are allowed
- Eligible materials include:
 - Treated lumber
 - Boards (minimum 2 in. x 6 in.)
 - Wood posts (minimum 6 in.)
 - Metal
 - Guard rail
 - I-beams
 - Pipe
 - Continuous pipe panels (minimum 16 gauge); *not eligible* — portable corral/wire panels
 - Pipe posts
 - Gates
 - Minimum 2 in. — 16 gauge tubes
 - Minimum length 8 ft.
 - Must be installed at time of reimbursement
- Labor for construction of Permanent Working Pen; *not eligible* — labor provided by applicant
 - Labor cannot exceed 30% of total reimbursement; labor must be itemized on invoice



Working pen example with equipment. **Equipment is not eligible for cost share.**

Permanent Working Pen Reimbursement

Reimbursements will be based upon eligible purchase.

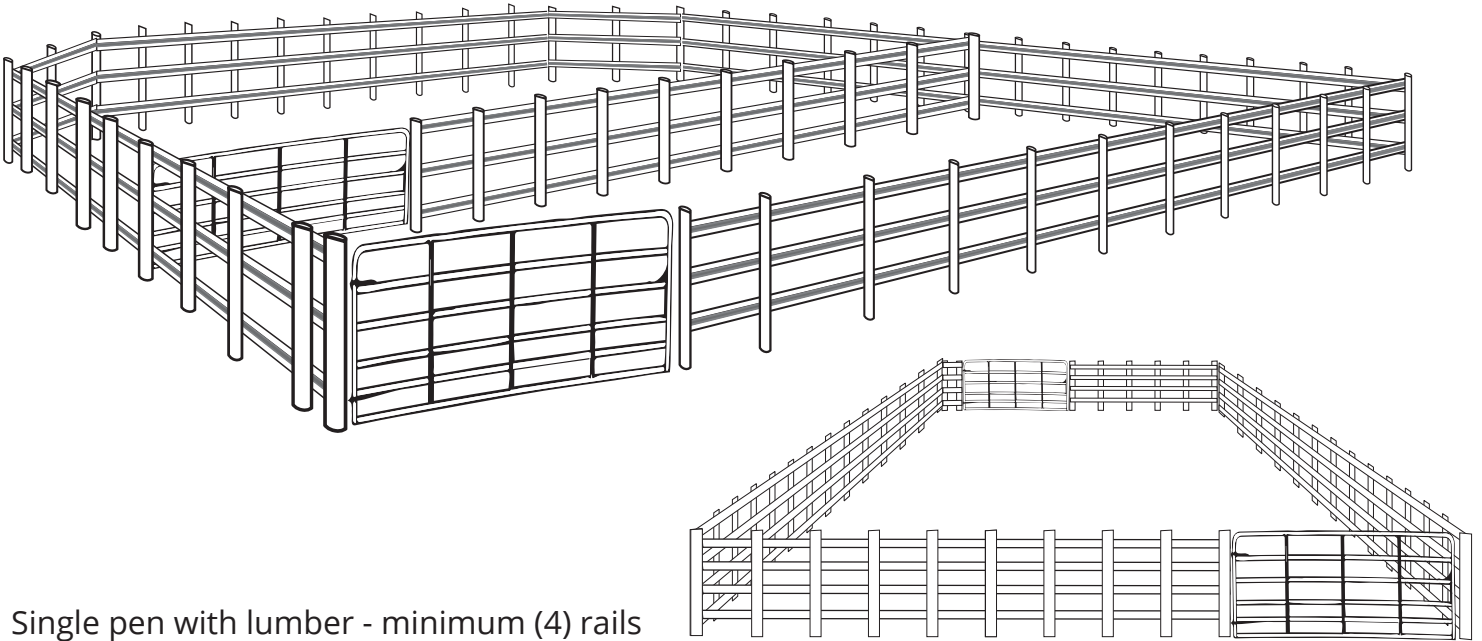
Reimbursement for contracted labor cannot exceed 30% of total reimbursement.

Material and labor costs must be itemized on invoice.

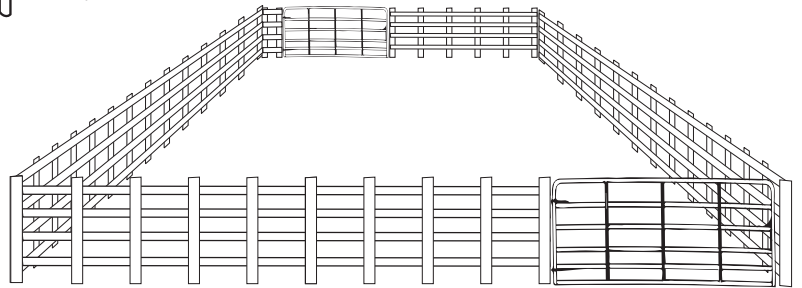
Permanent Working Pen Examples

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Eligible materials and pen requirements are listed on p. 24. Pens built from existing pens and/or fences are not eligible for cost share. **Equipment is not eligible for cost share.**

Multiple pen with guardrail - minimum (3) rails

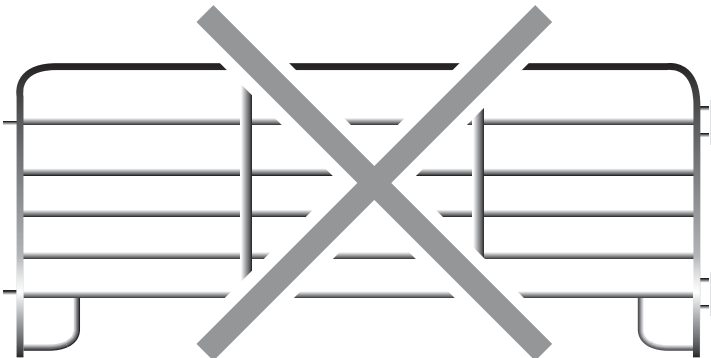


Single pen with lumber - minimum (4) rails

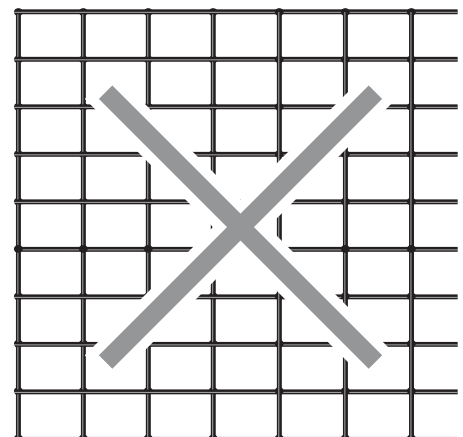


Gates must be installed at time of reimbursement; not eligible - equipment, building from existing pens and/or fences, wire panels, and portable corral panels

Not eligible - portable corral panels



Not eligible - wire panels



Hay Equipment

Livestock/Acreage Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$5,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 100 Head Goats/Sheep — 150 Head Hay — 100 Acres in production	BQA — Beef and Dairy	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement. Hay Acreage = 100 acres in production; first cutting only				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

New Equipment Only

- Ø New items cannot be previously owned.
- Ø Items purchased at an auction are considered used.

1. Hay mower; *not eligible* — rotary cutter
2. Hay mower caddy
3. Mower-conditioner
4. Hay tedder
5. Hay rake
6. Hay baler — round or square; balers only have a three (3) year verification period; all other items have a five (5) year verification period.

Accessories are eligible for cost share if purchased along with equipment. Additional parts are not eligible for cost share.

Hay Equipment Examples

Round Hay Baler



Square Hay Baler



Hay Equipment Examples

Hay Mower



Mower Caddy



Mower-Conditioner



Hay Tedder



Hay Rake



Row Crop Solutions

Acreage Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$10,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
100 Acres of land in row crop production	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Corn, Cotton, Soybeans, and Wheat only.				

Guidelines

Master Row Crop Producer Program

The Tennessee Master Row Crop Producer Program is an educational program designed to further improve the profitability and sustainability of today's row crop farming operations. From fundamental to cutting edge research-based information, training module topics include agronomics, integrated pest management, weed and disease management, precision agriculture, irrigation, grain drying and storage, marketing, and more. Modules will be delivered on an ongoing basis within each county and region to ensure accessibility to all interested producers.

For questions about this program, contact Dr. Lori Duncan (laduncan@utk.edu or 865-974-7111).

Eligible Items

New Only — Items 1 - 13

⌚ New items cannot be previously owned.

⌚ Items purchased at an auction are considered used.

1. Bin unload auger/bin sweep
2. Conveyor/grain leg/drive-over pit
3. Cotton round bale handler — must be designated for cotton use only
4. Drive-over scale — scale platform and scale indicator/monitor
5. Drying equipment
6. GPS - display and satellite receiver only; *not eligible - subscriptions*
7. Grain bin — minimum capacity of 10,000 bushels
 - Smaller capacity bins can be combined to reach 10,000 bushel minimum
 - Labor for the construction of bins; *not eligible — labor provided by applicant*
8. Grain bin rescue tube
9. Moisture monitor
10. Overhead loadout bin — minimum capacity of 24 tons
11. Portable bagging system — in-field storage of grain
12. Seed tender trailer — bulk seed delivery system
13. Stationary fuel tank and/or containment systems — on farm; above ground only; must meet all regulatory requirements

Eligible Items

New or Used — Items 14 - 16

- 14. Grain vacuum
- 15. No-till drill — minimum 15 ft. working width, 7.5 in. row space; *not eligible - planters*
- 16. Transport auger — portable transport auger/conveyor; minimum 20 ft. length

Used equipment must meet all of the following criteria:

- ✓ **Less than 10 years old**
- ✓ **Excellent working condition**
- ✓ **Minimal rust**
- ✓ **Reasonable market price**

Tennessee Department of Agriculture may verify used equipment prior to payment.

Livestock Solutions

Livestock Minimum Requirements	Certifications	Lifetime Limit	\$6,000 Maximum Reimbursement	
Cattle — 100 Head Goats/Sheep — 150 Head Swine — 1,000 Head	BQA — Beef and Dairy PQA Plus — Swine	Not Applicable	Standard 35% Cost Share	Master 50% Cost Share
Head of livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement. Swine = commercial growers only				

Guidelines

Eligible Items

New Only — Items 1 - 11

⊘ New items cannot be previously owned.

⊘ Items purchased at an auction are considered used.

1. Bunker/silage pit or pad — must have concrete floor
2. Commodity shed — new structures and additions to existing structures used for storage of bulk raw commodities, including whole grains and co-products used in a mixing process to produce feed; minimum specifications and examples available at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Livestock Solutions.
3. Feed bin — minimum 9 tons with optional auger and concrete pad
4. Feed lot scraper
5. Fence-line concrete bunk feeding system – setup must include new J-style bunk feeders, cable/railing, and concrete pad; see p.33 for example; *not eligible – covers, fences, geotextile, gravel, roads, site prep*
6. Fence-line hay feeding system – setup must include a minimum of 3 feeder panels, 1 gate (optional), 4 post (6 in x 6 in.) and concrete feeding pad; see p.34 for example; *not eligible – covers, fences, geotextile, gravel, hay rings, site prep*
7. Manure spreader — minimum capacity 140 bushels; *not eligible — litter spreader*
8. Mobile working system — must be a mobile self-contained trailer unit; *must include head gate, alley, and crowding/holding area*
9. Self-unloading feed wagon
10. Multiple animal scale – load bars/platform, indicator, and optional concrete pad; *not eligible – single animal scale*
11. Silage bagger — machinery used for the bagging or debagging of silage
12. Unloading forage feeder wagon

New or Used — Items 12 - 15

13. Bale processor/windrow bale feeder
14. Hay wrapper — machinery used for the wrapping of hay for use as haylage
15. Mixer wagon and grinder/mixer — equipment directly used to mix and/or grind hay, grain, and other supplements for feed
16. No-till pasture drill — minimum 10 ft. working width

Used equipment must meet all of the following criteria:

- ✓ **Less than 10 years old**
- ✓ **Excellent working condition**
- ✓ **Minimal rust**
- ✓ **Reasonable market price**

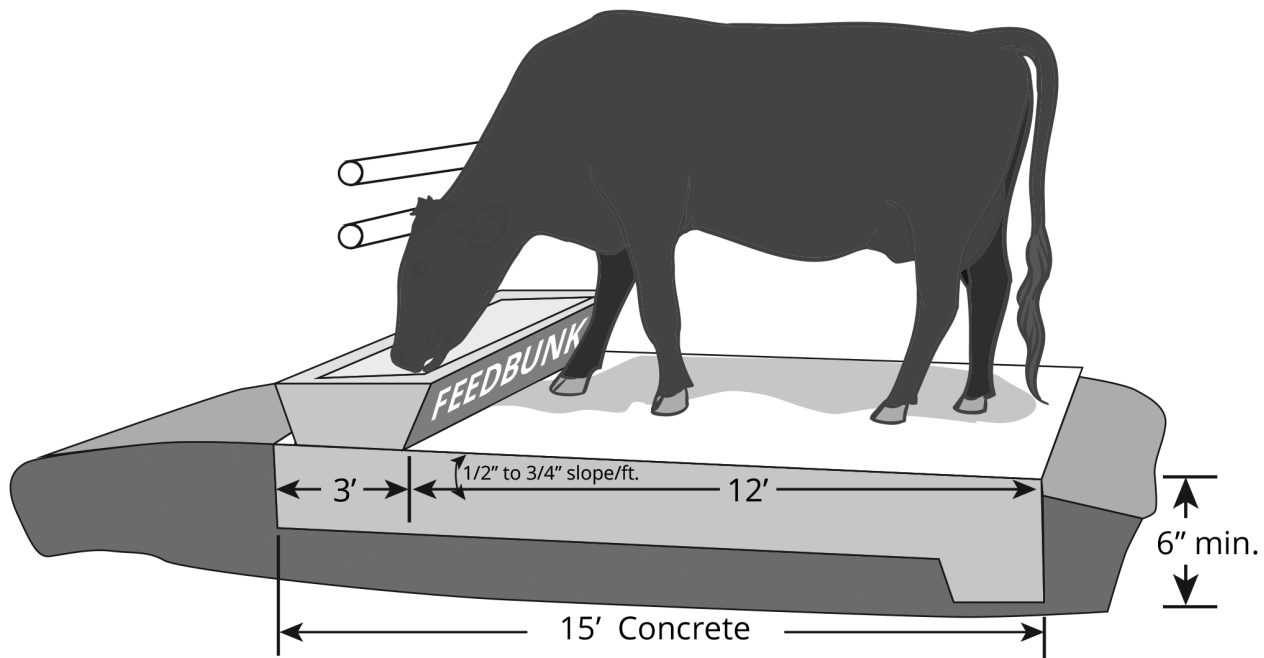
Tennessee Department of Agriculture may verify used equipment prior to payment.

Swine Only Items: Swine producers can purchase items 3, 15, 17

17. Generator for swine barn

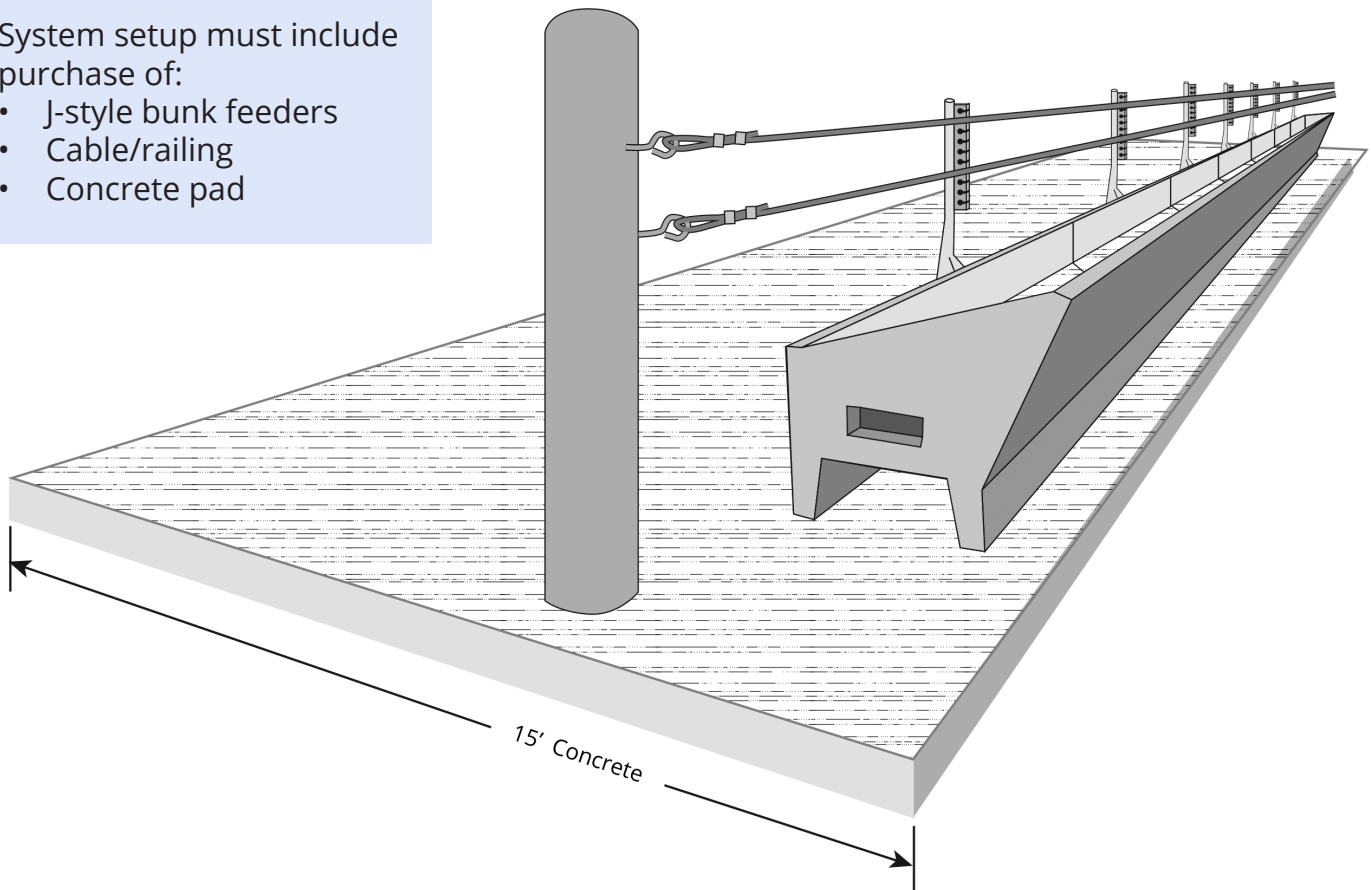
Fence-line Concrete Bunk Feeding System Example

Minimum specifications for the fence-line concrete bunk feeding system examples can be found on p. 32.



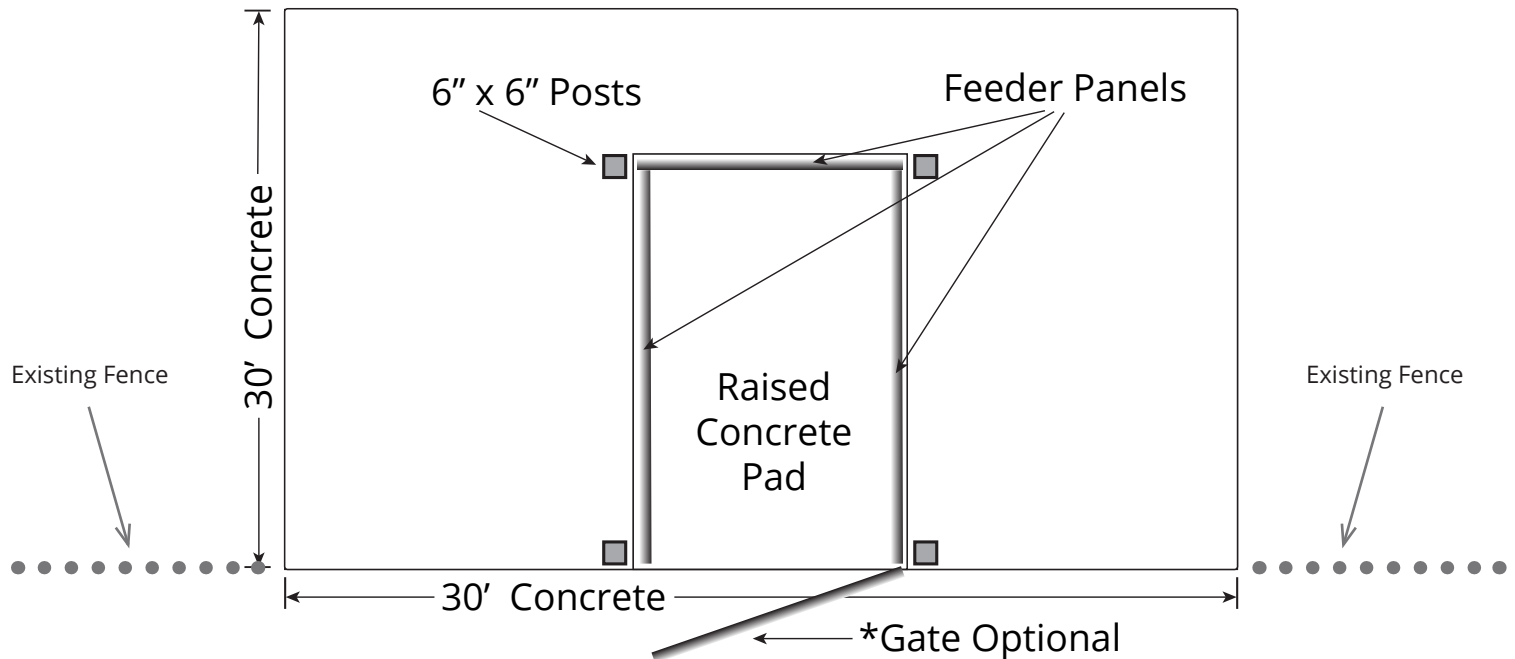
System setup must include purchase of:

- J-style bunk feeders
- Cable/railing
- Concrete pad



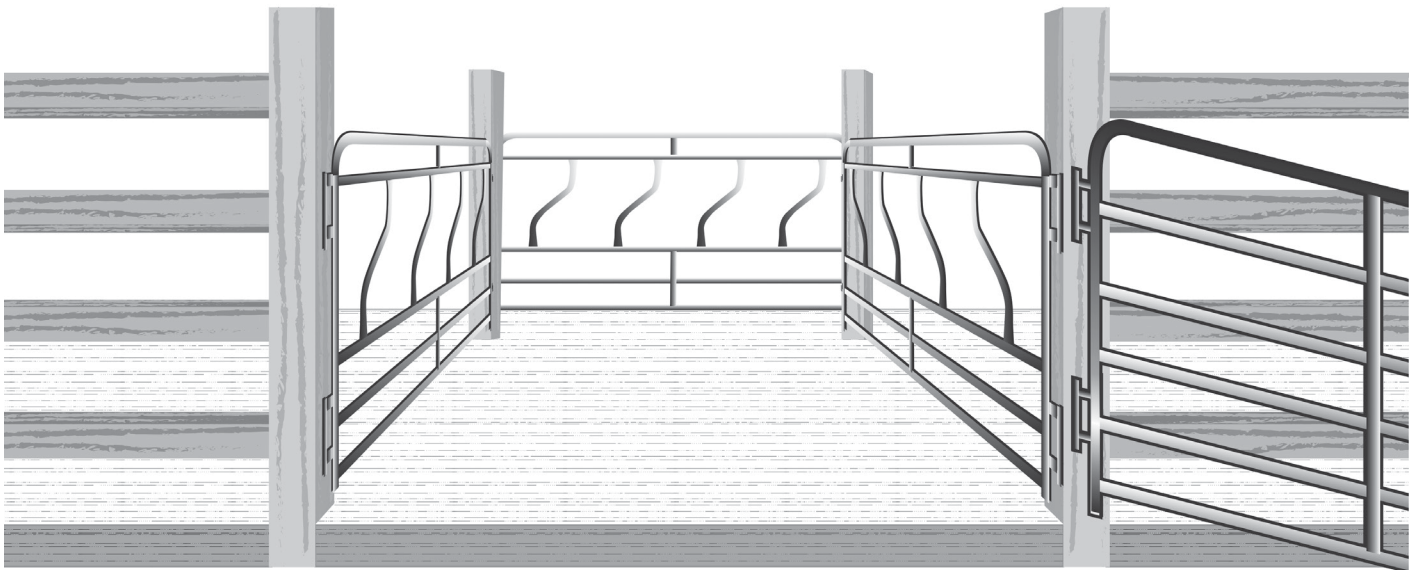
Fence-line Hay Feeding System Example

Minimum specifications for the fence-line concrete bunk feeding system examples can be found on p. 32.



System setup must include minimum purchase of:

- Feeder panels (3)
- Posts (4)
- Concrete feeding pad



Frequently Asked Questions

Am I eligible to apply for TAEP?

Review TAEP's eligibility requirements on p. 6 to determine if you meet basic requirements.

How to determine if I qualify for a program?

Review program descriptions and livestock/acreage minimum requirements to determine the programs for which you qualify. Head of livestock refers to the maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement. Swine producers must be commercial growers to qualify. Verification of minimum requirements may be requested prior to approval.

Do I need any certifications or permits to apply?

Cattle producers are required to have a current BQA at time of application. Dairy producers must be permitted by TDA to be eligible as a dairy at time of application. See p. 6 for additional information.

Master producer certification is required at time of reimbursement (not at time of application). Master producer certification is only required for applicants seeking 50% cost share. All applicants are eligible for 35% (Standard Producer) cost share. Applicants qualifying for the Beginning Farmer Option must complete the required educational certification to qualify for reimbursement. See pp. 10-11.

How to Apply?

Applications must be submitted during the application period (October 1-7, 2021). Applications may be submitted by mail, online, or hand delivery.

Paper Application

Paper applications must be mailed to TDA.

TAEP 2021 - A
P.O. Box 40627
Nashville, TN 37204

Paper applications must have a postmark ranging from October 1-7, 2021.

- Applications will not be accepted if faxed or emailed.
- Hand delivery to TDA, Holeman Building, 424 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220 between October 1 – 7, 2021 during normal business hours

Tip: Applicants are encouraged to keep a copy of their application materials and mail the original using a traceable method of delivery. For example, USPS Certified Mail with Return Receipt method will provide the sender with evidence of delivery (to whom the mail was delivered and date of delivery).

Online Application

Applicants may apply electronically via a live link at www.tn.gov/taep during the application period (October 1-7, 2021). The online application allows for both new and returning applicants to apply. Applying online ensures all sections of the application are complete and verifies the application was received by sending a confirmation email to the applicant. Applicant must have a valid email address to apply online.

Instructions for Application A

Review program descriptions and requirements to determine which programs you are eligible for and if any program specific certifications/permits are required to apply. Complete all sections of the application.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Name – enter your full legal name and indicate your title and any suffix you may have
Tip: Applicant name must match name on educational certifications and permits.
- Social Security Number — list only the last four digits of your social security number; additional taxpayer information will be collected at time of reimbursement; participants will receive Form 1099-G for payments over \$600
- Mailing Address — enter the address where you receive your mail; TAEP documentation will be sent to this address
- Farm County — enter the county where your TAEP project will be located
- Home Address — enter the address where you live; the home address may be the same as your mailing address; P.O. Boxes are not accepted as a home address
- Home Phone & Cell Phone — enter available contact numbers
- Email — enter current email address (optional)

2. FARMING HISTORY

List the year you started farming your operation. *Example - 2005*

3. TAEP PRODUCER NUMBER (TPN)

The TAEP Producer Number (TPN) is a unique number used to identify each applicant. The TPN is exclusive to an individual and cannot be transferred. If you have applied for TAEP within the past three years, your TPN will be mailed to you September 2021. Please include your TPN on the application form and any other TAEP correspondence. **New applicants will not have a TPN until their first application is processed.**

4. APPLICATION CERTIFICATIONS/PERMITS

Applicant Certifications/Permits — BQA and PQA certifications must be current at the time of application and completed by the applicant. No substitutions allowed. Dairy producers must be permitted by TDA at time of application to be eligible as a dairy. *Master certifications are submitted at time of reimbursement.*

5. LIVESTOCK AND ACREAGE INFORMATION

Livestock/Acreage — each program has a minimum number of livestock/acreage requirements. The applicant must meet at least one requirement per program applied for, along with other eligibility requirements. Verification of minimum requirements may be requested prior to approval.

- Head of Livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months
- Hay Acreage = acres of hay in production; first cutting only
- Row Crop Acreage = acres of land in row crop production of corn, cotton, soybeans, and wheat only

6. COST SHARE REQUEST

Cost Share Request — **Check only one (1) program.** Checking multiple boxes will void your cost share request. You will not be able to change your cost share request after October 7, 2021.

7. BEGINNING FARMER OPTION

Indicate if you qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option. This new program option allows beginning farmers who do not meet minimum livestock/acreage requirements to participate in TAEP Application A. To qualify for this option, the applicant must be a first time TAEP applicant who has been farming less than five years and does not meet the current minimum livestock/acreage requirements for any TAEP Application A program. *See pp. 10-11 for additional information.*

8. APPLICANT AGREEMENT

Applicant Agreement — this section features several important bullet points regarding program participation and compliance. **Read each line of text.** Print your name and date. Sign your name.



Official Use Only

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Name:

Title: ☐ MR ☐ MRS ☐ MS ☐ MISS Suffix: ☐ JR ☐ SR ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV

Social Security Number - Last four digits only: **X X X - X X -**

This is for identification purposes ONLY. Applicant will provide taxpayer information at time of reimbursement.

Mailing Address:

City:

State: Zip: Farm County:

Home Address:

City: _____

State: Zip:

Home Phone: [] [] [] - [] [] [] - [] [] [] Cell Phone: [] [] [] - [] [] [] - [] [] []

2. FARMING HISTORY: List the year you started farming your operation:

Farm Operation Participation - only one person from your farming operation may apply for Application A.

3. TAEP PRODUCER NUMBER (TPN): New TAEP applicants will not have a TPN until applications are processed.

4. APPLICANT CERTIFICATION/PERMITS: *Certifications/permits must be current (not expired) and in the applicant's name. No substitutions allowed. Master certifications are submitted at time of reimbursement.*

Beef Quality Assurance
BOA# - Required for cattle:

BQA# - *Expiration Date:* / /

TDA Dairy Permit#:	T	-			
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5. LIVESTOCK AND ACREAGE INFORMATION

- Head of livestock = maximum of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months
- Hay acreage = acres of hay in production; first cutting only
- Row crop acreage = acres of land in row crop production of corn, cotton, soybeans, and wheat only

Check Type

List # of Head

☐ Cattle

☐ Goats/Sheep

☐ Swine

Check Type

List # of Production Acres

☐ Row Crop

☐ Hay

6. COST SHARE REQUEST

Check only one (1) program. Checking multiple boxes will void your cost share request.

☐ Dairy Solutions

☐ Genetics

☐ Permanent Working Structures

☐ Livestock Solutions

☐ Herd Health

☐ Livestock Equipment

☐ Hay Equipment

☐ Row Crop Solutions

7. BEGINNING FARMER OPTION

Do you qualify for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option? ☐ Yes ☐ No

You are not eligible for the Beginning Farmer Option if you:

☐ Have applied for TAEP previously

☐ Started your farm operation prior January 1, 2017

☐ Meet minimum livestock/acreage requirements for any program

See pp. 10-11 for information about qualifying for the Beginning Farmer Option.

8. APPLICANT AGREEMENT

- I understand only one Application A is allowed per farm operation, per Federal IRS Schedule F, per person, per application period.
- I certify I am a citizen of the United States of America or lawfully present in the United States.
- I certify I am a Tennessee resident operating a farm located in Tennessee.
- I certify I am at least 18 years old during the application period.
- **I certify I am the only individual from my farm operation applying for Application A.**
- **I certify I have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040) within the last two years (2019 or 2020).**
- I certify my Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is less than (or equal to) \$900,000 in the tax year 2019 or 2020.
- I certify all applicant information is complete, true, and factual to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I understand it is my responsibility to ensure that my project is eligible and meets all TAEP criteria.
- I understand providing any false, fraudulent, or misleading information may result in penalties and/or make my operation ineligible to participate in present and/or future Tennessee Department of Agriculture programs for a minimum of five years and may result in civil litigation or criminal prosecution.
- I have reviewed and understand all the guidelines listed in this application booklet.

Print Name:

Date:

Signature:

- Applicant will be notified in writing of approval or denial of application by mid-December
- It is recommended to make a copy and mail the original using a traceable method of delivery
- Paper applications must have a postmark date ranging from October 1 - 7, 2021
- Mail to: **TDA, TAEP 2021 – App A, P.O. Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204**

Quick Reference Guide

TAEF APPLICATION A Quick Reference Guide for 2021 Program Requirements for Livestock Producers

Program	Cattle <i>Beef/Dairy</i>	Goats/Sheep <i>Meat/Dairy</i>	Swine <i>Commercial Grower</i>
Dairy Solutions Genetics Livestock Equipment Permanent Working Structures	30 Head minimum BQA Standard = 35% Master = 50%	50 Head minimum Standard = 35% Master = 50%	
Hay Equipment	100 Head minimum BQA Standard = 35% Master = 50%	150 Head minimum Standard = 35% Master = 50%	
Herd Health	30 Head minimum BQA		
Livestock Solutions	100 Head minimum BQA Standard = 35% Master = 50%	150 Head minimum Standard = 35% Master = 50%	1,000 Head minimum Standard = 35% Master = 50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of livestock refers to maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, at any one time during the last 12 months. Verification of minimum requirements may be requested prior to approval. • Goats/Sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement. • Swine = Commercial growers only • All approved applicants are eligible for 35% (Standard Producer) cost share. For applicants wanting to qualify for 50% cost share (Master Producer), an eligible master producer certificate is required at time of reimbursement (not at time of application). See pp. 8 & 9 for additional information on master producer requirements. 			

Nondiscrimination

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against persons based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Any person alleging discrimination based on a prohibited basis has a right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discrimination with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and/or the Tennessee Human Rights Commission. For more information contact Human Resources at 615-837-5116.

Public Disclosure

Under Tennessee's Public Records law, information provided to the state becomes public record and is open to public inspection unless otherwise protected by state or federal law.

A public record is defined as all documents or materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics made or received in connection with the transaction of official business by any governmental agency. Please be aware that information collected by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture could be made available to the public upon request by any citizen of the state. Requests for public records will be examined for compliance with public record laws.

TAEP Contact Information

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hay.equipment@tn.gov
herd.health@tn.gov
livestock.equipment@tn.gov
livestock.genetics@tn.gov
livestock.solutions@tn.gov
poultry.grower@tn.gov
producer.diversification@tn.gov
rowcrop.solutions@tn.gov
working.structures@tn.gov
taep.online@tn.gov

Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program
Tennessee Department of Agriculture • Ellington Agricultural Center
P.O. Box 40627 • Nashville, TN 37204

Information Line

1.800.342.8206



Physical Address:
Ellington Agricultural Center Holeman Building • 424 Hogan Road • Nashville, TN 37220



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